

*The PERILS of FALSE BRETHREN,
both in Church, and State :*

Set forth in a

S E R M O N

PREACH'D before

The R I G H T H O N O U R A B L E,
T H E

L O R D - M A Y O R,

Aldermen, and Citizens of *London*,

A T T H E

Cathedral-Church of St. Paul,

On the 5th of *November*, 1709.

—Haud Imprudenter speculatus, Neminem celerius Opprimam
quam Qui nihil timeret, & Frequentissimum Initium esse Calamitatis
SECURITATEM. *V. Patere. L. 2 c. 118.*

—When they shall say *PEACE*, and *SAFETY*, then Sudden
Destruction cometh upon them as Travail upon a Woman with
Child, and they shall not escape. 1 Thess. c. 5. v. 3.

By *HENRY SACHEVERELL*, D.D.
Fellow of *Magdalen-College*, *Oxon*, and Chaplain of *St. Saviour's*, *Southwark*.

L O N D O N :

Printed for *HENRY CLEMENTS*, at the *Half-Moon*
in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*, 1709.

Queen's University Libraries

Professor J. A. W. Gunn,
2003

Kingsron, Ontario, Canada

THE PERILS OF FALSE
BRETHREN
BOTH IN CHURCH AND STATE

by

HENRY SACHEVERELL

Published by *The Rota* at the University of Exeter
1974

© *The Rota*, 1974

ISBN: 0 9501950 9 X

Printed in Great Britain by
The Printing Unit of the University of Exeter

On 5 November 1709, the anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot, Henry Sacheverell preached his notorious sermon on the text 'in perils among false brethren' in St. Paul's Cathedral. Three weeks later, on 25 November, Henry Clements of the Half-Moon in St. Paul's Churchyard published by arrangement with Sacheverell a quarto and an octavo edition. The quarto (eight prefatory pages and forty-eight pages of text) sold for a shilling; many copies were distributed according to the Doctor's instructions. This edition is now extremely rare. The late F. F. Madan, an indefatigable hunter of Sacheverelliana, listed only one copy (in Worcester College, Oxford) in the critical bibliography of Sacheverell he was preparing. The present edition reproduces one of the two copies acquired by the Bodleian since his death in 1961. The first octavo was clearly intended for a wider audience, but it was also generously produced in eight pages of prefatory matter and forty of text. It sold for 2d.

Clements brought out a second quarto (six plus twenty-six pages) on 1 December; priced at 6d, it was restricted to a thousand copies. Prodigious sales really began with the second octavo edition published on 3 December, which squeezed the work into twenty-four pages for a penny. Clements testified that he printed 'betwixt 35000 & 40000 of those sermons in 8^{vo}', (Cambridge U. L. Cholmondley [Houghton] MS 67/9). The first editions were dedicated to 'the Right Honourable Sir Samuel Garrard, Lord-Mayor of the City of London'. Garrard objected to the omission of his title; 'so in the second edition', Sacheverell explained, 'I put in the word Baronet' (British Library Lansdowne MS 1024. f. 199). The revision appears in both the quarto and octavo editions. There are a number of variants in the second octavos: one issue ends with the words 'our Lord' (p. 24, last line); of these some copies have 'Bar' inserted after Garrard in the dedication. Another issue concludes 'Christ our Lord'; all these have the altered dedication.

Clements's success encouraged at least six piracies, five in 1709 and one in 1710. Two were anonymous and are quite rare: a copy with the imprint 'London: printed for the benefit of the poor, 1709' survives in St. Paul's Cathedral Library; another 'printed in the year MDCCIX' was known to Madan only from a copy in the Cleveland Public Library. The others, printed by or for J. Bradford, H. Hills and H. King (two editions) survive in a number of copies. Thus, within months, the sermon was readily available. Bishop Burnet's claim that 'about 40,000 of them were printed and dispersed over the nation' (*History of my own time* (Oxford, 1833), V, 435) either refers only to Clements's editions or is a serious underestimate. Dr. W. A. Speck, who is revising Madan's bibliography for publication and to whom this note is largely indebted, estimates that

some 100,000 copies were sold in the British Isles. Foreigners could read the sermon in Dutch, German and French translations.

In the years after being appointed a fellow of his college, Magdalen, Oxford, Dr. Henry Sacheverell had made a name for himself as a fiery preacher of Highflying sermons. By 1709, when he was elected to one of the chaplaincies at St. Saviour's, Southwark, he had already frequently denounced the tendencies to atheism, republicanism and regicide which he perceived in nonconformity and in Low Church toleration. To Sacheverell, as to other Highflyers, the Church was in danger from any Whig government which winked at occasional conformity and might even repeal the Test Act. It was as an effective Tory High Churchman that he won his chaplaincy and was invited to preach in St. Paul's by Garrard, exercising his privilege as a newly elected Lord Mayor. November 5 was traditionally a Whig holiday—a day for preaching against the dangers of popery in commemoration of the failure of the Gunpowder Plot and the successful landing of William III at Torbay. Sacheverell briefly dismissed these subjects and went on to fulminate against fanatics and denounce the false brethren in Church and State who were an even greater danger than acknowledged enemies. These hypocrites apparently comprised all who deviated from the Church's established doctrines, anyone who wished to change the Church's discipline by making it more latitudinarian or by tolerating schism, as well as those who advocated constitutional change or did not believe that the subject owed unconditional obedience and that resistance was illegal. If such traitors had their way, they would undermine and destroy both Church and State. Sacheverell managed to suggest that the Dissenters remained as treacherously republican as their predecessors and to insinuate that the Whig government of the Junto and their Low Church allies were secret traitors; here he referred to 'wily Volpones'—a shot at Godolphin.

Even in the Doctor's flamboyant style, this was little more than standard party rhetoric. Sacheverell however published the sermon, it seems on what he took to be Garrard's consent, despite the Whig Court of Aldermen's anticipated refusal to order the sermon printed. Thus provoked, the government decided to prosecute and by punishing the fiery Doctor make him an example to others. Parliamentary proceedings were necessitated by Sacheverell's studied avoidance of words precisely seditious or libellous. The plan to maximize Sacheverell's public humiliation backfired when an aroused Tory public, complete with rioting mobs as well as sympathetic female aristocratic speculators at the trial and aided by an astute defence, rallied to his support. The credibility of the government was destroyed by Sacheverell's triumph—he was convicted but punished merely by being forbidden to preach for three years, and he was neither imprisoned nor barred from preferment. That triumph was celebrated during March 1710 in riots throughout the country and

in June and July by an ecstatic Progress. In the General Election that autumn the Tories converted this enthusiasm into a landslide victory that put Robert Harley in power but saddled him with Henry St. John and the October Club. For the full story, from which this account is mainly derived, see G. Holmes, *The trial of Doctor Sacheverell* (London, 1973).

The perils of false brethren is reproduced by permission of the Curators of the Bodleian Library. Shelf mark: Vet. A4. d. 270.

The PERILS of FALSE BRETHREN,
both in Church, and State :

Set forth in a

S E R M O N

PREACH'D before

The RIGHT HONOURABLE,

THE

LORD-MAYOR,

Aldermen, and Citizens of *London*,

AT THE

Cathedral-Church of St. Paul,

On the 5th of *November*, 1709.

—Haud Imprudenter speculatus, Neminem celerius Opprimi :
quam Qui nihil timeret, & Frequentissimum Initium esse Calamitatis SECURITATEM. *V. Paterc. L. 2 c. 118.*

—When they shall say PEACE, and SAFETY, then Sudden Destruction cometh upon them as Travail upon a Woman with Child, and they shall not escape. 1 Thess. c. 5. v. 3.

By HENRY SACHEVERELL, D.D.
Fellow of Magdalen-College, Oxon, and Chaplain of St. Saviour's, Southwark.

L O N D O N :

Printed for HENRY CLEMENTS, at the *Half-Moon*
in *St. Paul's Church-Yard*, 1709.

TO the RIGHT HONOURABLE

Sir *Samuel Garrard*,
LORD-MAYOR
OF THE
City of *L O N D O N*.

My LORD,

BY Your Lordship's Command *this* Discourse ventures to appear in Publick, in Contempt of all those Scandalous Misrepresentations the Malicious Adversaries of Our Church have Traduc'd it with, and that Impartial Sentence it had the Honour to Receive from some of those Acute, and Wise Judges, who Condemn'd it without Sight, or Hearing. But 'tis no New Thing with some Men to Censure at random what lies out of their Sphere; Examining a Cause may prove Dangerous, for fear of their Own Conviction of it's Merits. When Men are

The Dedication.

Resolv'd to Leap into a Gulph, the best way is to shut their Eyes, for fear they should see their Danger, and Repent of their Folly. When They are thus Abandon'd, and Given up to Ruin, the Charitable Hand, that would hold out an Unwelcom Light to Prevent it, must expect to be Treated with that Ungrateful Insolence, and Reproach, which usually attends the Generous Freedom of those who Dare speak Seasonable, and Necessary Truths. That Patient's Case doubtless is very Desperate, that sets himself against his Cure; and when Men are so stupidly harden'd in their Errors as to Resist the most Glaring Evidence, there's no room for Argument, or Gospel. Moses, and the Prophets, may with Christ, and his Apostles, be Banish'd our Synagogues, when Truth must be Oppress'd by Number, and Noise, and Rebellious Appeals to the People, as the only Judges of Right, and Wrong, and the Dernier Resort of Justice, and Dominion. Are not these the Fashionable Methods now made use of to Over bear, and Silence Our Church, to Affront, and Revile our Legislature, in order to Break

The Dedication.

Break in *upon the Prerogative of the Crown?* By Threatning *them with Imaginary Legions, and a Popular Tribunal, where their Authority, and Establishment are to be Try'd, and Determin'd?* To put a Stop to *which Dangerous, and Encroaching Mischief, that now with Impunity walks up and down thro' this Distracted Kingdom, I thought it my Duty (being Summon'd to this Office by Your Lordship) to Discharge it in the BEST METHOD I could,; to Preserve Us from these Malicious Designs, by endeavouring, if possible, to Open the Eyes of the Deluded People in this Our Great Metropolis; being Conscious of what Prodigious Importance it is to the Welfare of the whole Nation, to have it's Rich, and Powerful Inhabitants set right in their Notions of Government, both in Church, and State; that they may not be Flatter'd into their Ruin, but seeing the Fatal Consequences of these Damnable False Doctrins, which some Seditious Impostors have labour'd to Poyson 'em with, may Forake, and Detest them. I am confident, My Lord, that this Glorious, and Re-*

nown'd.

The Dedication.

nown'd City can Boast of so many Excellent Examples of Unshaken Steadiness, Disinterested Probity and true Zeal, and Loyalty for Our Church, and Sovereign, that if they would act with the same Open, and Undaunted Resolution Your Lordship does, these Af-frighting Phantoms must Vanish. But if Honest Gentlemen will sit still, and give up their Cause thro' want of Courage, or a Just Sense of the Dangerous Attempts of Our E-nemies, without the Spirit of Prophecy, We may foretel what will become of Our Consti-tution; when 'tis so Vigorously Attack'd from Without, and so Lazily Defended from Within.

We are told by these Men, who would fain shut both our Eyes, and our Mouths, in order the more effectually to Undermine, and Destroy Us, that the Pulpit is not a place for Politicks, and that 'tis the Business of a Clergy-man to Preach Peace, and not sound a Trumpet in Sion, so expressly contrary to the Command of God, to Cry aloud, and Spare not. My Lord, I was humbly of Opinion, that the Fifth Commandment was Genuine;
the

The Dedication.

the Fanaticks would do well to strike that Dangerous Precept out of the Decalogue, as the Papists have the Second, that neither might Rise in Judgment against these United Friends, and Brethren. Now as This stands the First in the Second Table, is it not of the utmost Importance, to be rightly Understood, as containing the Principal Duty that we owe to God's Vice-Gerents, which has been so Scandalously, and Villainously Misinterpreted of late, to the Great Dishonour of Both? Certainly Our Church thought so Formerly, when it took such Care to Guard Our Obedience, with more Homilies concerning the Peril of Rebellion, than of any Other Sin. And when was more Reason for Enforcing their Doctrines than now, when We see these admirable Dissuasives against Faction, and Sedition maliciously Wrested to Countenance, and Support it? If our Excellent Constitution apprehends no hazard from these Licentious Proceedings, I am sure Those who would Defend it from them, have reason to do so, with regard to their Own Persons: Our Pastors can't do their Duty without being Menac'd for it,

The Dedication.

it, and Slander'd by the Vile Amanuenses of the Mob, to expose us to their Fury, as Papists, and Men Disaffected to Her Majesty's Government, whose Safety, Rights and Establishment, together with Those of the Church, We so earnestly contend for ; which I solemnly here Declare (as I did before in this Discourse) to be my only Aim and Intention ; and in an humble way to follow the Footsteps of Your Lordship, who is so Bright an Ornament, and Support of them. That This Great City may Flourish under Your Auspicious Conduct, and never want a Magistrate of your steady Principles to Guide and Govern it, is the hearty Prayer of,

My LORD,

Your Lordship's

Most Humble Servant,

HENRY SACHEVERELL

A

S E R M O N

P R E A C H ' D before the

L O R D - M A Y O R, &c.

2 COR. xi. 26.

In PERILS *among* FALSE BRETHREN.

AMONG All the most Dreadful *Plots* that ever Threatn'd this *Church*, and *Kingdom*, the Dismal *Tragedy* contriv'd as this Day to be *Executed* on *Both*, may justly Claim the *Horrible Precedence*, and consequently the *Highest Expressions* of Our *Gratitude* for so Astonishing and *Miraculous a Deliverance* from it. For whether We consider the *Black Depth* of it's subtle *Contrivance*, the *Destructive Extent*, and *Sanguinary Consequences* of it, or it's *Surprizing*, and *Unaccountable Discovery*, We must Confess, that no-

B thing

thing but the *All-powerful*, and Gracious *Hand* of God, interposing against the utter Subversion of Our *Nation*, and *Religion*, could have prevented such a *Fatal Conspiracy*. A *Conspiracy*! so full of the most Unheard-of *Malice*, most Insatiable *Cruelty*, most Diabolical *Revenge*, as only could be *Hatch'd* in the *Cabinet-Council* of Hell, and *Brought forth* in a *Conclave* of *Romish Jesuits*! Now tho' the *History* of this Unparallell'd *Mystery of Iniquity*, was *Design'd* against Us at such a *Distance* of Time, and the *Fact* so evidently *Acknowledg'd*, that the *Papists* themselves are so far from *Denying*, that they *Extol* it with the Highest *Panegyrics*; so that there needs neither *Proof* of the One, or *Repetition* of the Other: Yet doubtless 'tis as much Our *Duty*, as *Interest*, to keep up the *Annual Celebration* of this *Never-to-be-forgotten Festival*. For that the very Face, and Shadow of Our *Church*, and *Constitution*, is yet *Surviving*; That this *Good*, and *Pious Relict* of the *Royal Family* Sits now *Happily* upon the *Tbrone* of Her Great *Ancestors*; That Our *Hierarchy*, and *Nobility* was not finally *Extirpated*, and cut off; That Our *Country* was not made an *Aceldama*, a *Field of Blood*, and a *Receptacle* of *Usurping Robbers*; That We yet, without *Slavery*, *Superstition*, or *Idolatry*, enjoy the *Benefit* of our *Excellent Laws*, and most Holy *Profession* Undeild: In a word, That God has yet *Vouchsafed* Us this *Opportunity* of coming into his *Presence*, to *Acknowledge* these Inestimable Blessings,

sings, is owing to his *Mercy* so signally shewn to Us, in Disappointing the *Barbarous Massacre* intended *This Day*. A *Day*! which ought to stand for Ever in the *English Kalendar*, as an *Eternal Æra* at the *One* end, as the *Thirtieth* of *January* at the *Other*, for *Indelible Monuments* of the *Irreconcilable Rage*, and *Blood-thirstiness* of both the *Popish*, and *Fanatick Enemies* of Our *Church*, and *Government*! For These are *equally* such Treacherous *FALSE BRETHREN*, from whom we must always expect the *utmost Perils*, and *against* whom we can never sufficiently Arm Ourselves with the greatest *Caution*, and *Security*. These *TWO DAYS* indeed, are but One *United Proof*, and *Visible Testimonial* of the same *Dangerous*, and *Rebellious Principles*, these *Confederates in Iniquity* Maintain: And as the *One* is but a *Thanksgiving* of our *Deliverance* from what the *First Projected*; so is the *Other* an *Humiliation*, for what God permitted the *Latter*, by *Their Help and Direction*, to put in *Execution*. I think therefore, the *Best way* of *Acknowledging* These *Great Mercies*, and *Judgments* of God, and *Acquitting Both Solemnities* in a *Proper way*, is by so justly *Considering Our Circumstances* with respect to *Each Side*, as to *Guard against Their Malicious*, and *Factionous Designs* for the future; that we may never *Trust Either*, to need a *Second Deliverance* from those *Villainous Enterprizes*, they will never cease to put in *Practice*, whenever they see an *Opportunity* of doing it with *Security*.

Now as *Persecution*, and *Affliction*, were the *Distinguishing Badges* of the *Messiah*, who was a *Man of Sorrows*, and *Acquainted with Griefs*, so to *Convince* his *Disciples*, that his *Kingdom* was not of *this World*, He *Bequeath'd* the same *sad Legacy* to Them, to *Share* the *Character*, as well as *imitate* the *Example*, of their *Dying Lord*, and *Master*. With *unshaken Courage*, and *Resolution*, to take up His *Bloody Cross*, and follow the *Great Leader* of *Their Salvation*; to *March* with a *Cheerful Magnanimity* thro' all the *Powers of Darknes*, looking unto *Jesus*, the *Author* and *Finisher* of *Their Faith*, who for the *Joy* that was set before Him, *Endur'd* the *Cross*, *despising* the *Shame*, and is set down at the *Right-hand* of the *Throne* of *God*. Thus was *His Church* to expect no *Better Treatment* than Her *Great Founder*, and *Original*, to pass through the same *Fiery Trial*, to be made *Perfect* through *Sufferings*, to be *Militant* here, in order to be *Triumphant* hereafter; and like *Him*, to be *Crown'd* with *Thorns* in *This World*, to Obtain a *Crown of Glory* in the *Next*. Not only to *Encounter* the *Open Fury* and *Violence* of Her *Profess'd*, and *Inveterate Enemies*; but (which was the *Bitterest Part* of Her *Sufferings*) like Her *Saviour*, to be *Betray'd*, and *perfidiously* Given up by Her Own *False-hearted*, and *Insidious Apostles*.

As the *Histories* of the *Church* in *All Ages*, are as 'twere but *One Continu'd Ratification* of this *Melancholly Truth*, made up of so many Mourn-
ful

ful Narratives, of the *Unhappy Lives*, and *Disastrous Deaths* of *Saints*, *Martyrs*, and *Confessors*, who *Bravely Seal'd the Faith with Their Blood*, so it is Exemplify'd in no One Instance more than in that *Primitive*, and *Heroic Champion* of Christianity, the *Author* of this *Epistle*. Wherein, for the *Wonder*, and *Emulation* of Posterity, He has Recorded a Long and *Frightful Catalogue* of those *Astonishing Calamities* He had underwent in the *Propagation* of the *Gospel*. Such *Ample Satisfaction*, did the *Pious Labours* of the *Convert*, make for the wicked *Persecution* of the *Jew*; when by a *Miraculous Turn* of *Providence*, the *Greatest Sinner* was Chang'd into the *Devoutest Saint*, and the most *Zealous Bigot* against, into the most *Resolute Sufferer* for, *Religion*. Yet however this *Great Apostle* might have *Attain'd* so *Extraordinary a Degree of Merit*, as to *Out-shine* all that *Noble Army of Martyrs*, which *Adorn* the *Bloody Calendar* of the *Church*; nay, as He *Expresses* it, to *come never a whit Short of the Greatest Apostles*, and as 'twere to *Vye Characters* with the very *Chosen* of the *Son of God*; Does it not seem a little to carry the *Air of Ostentation*, and *Vain-glory*, thus to *Claim* the *Pre-eminence*, and *Supremacy*, and to *Boast* himself in that *Pompous Shew of Services* that He had done for *God*, and the *Church*? But We shall easily *Reconcile* the *Apostle*, and the *Orator*, and find no *Imputation* upon His *Modesty*, if we Consider the *Occasion* of it. He had (as He informs

informs Us) with much *Pains*, and *Expence*, Planted Christianity in *Corinth*, where He had no sooner by a *Miraculous Ministry* Establish'd it, but several *False Apostles*, and *Seducers*, were in his Absence Crept into the Church, to Vitate, and Corrupt his *New Profelytes*, under the Pretence of *More Purity*, and *Holiness*, (like Our *Modern Sectarists*) to raise a *Schism* amongst 'em, and to Draw them off from the *Opinion* they had of *St. Paul*; by *Ridiculing* Him for his *Person*, and *Address*, as a Little, *Un-edifying*, *Un-gifted Preacher*, of a weak *Bodily Presence*, and *Contemptible Speech*; thus *Wounding* the *Ministry*, thro' the *Sides* of the *Minister*. Such *Slights*, and *Provocations*, certainly were a *Sufficient Ground* for the *Apostle* to Insist upon his *Character*, lest the *Gospel* should Suffer by it; And with *Authority* to Rebuke the *Ingratitude* of the *Corinthians*, and *Vindicate* his *Dignity*, and *Transcendent Excellencies*, against the base *Lyes*, and *Calumnies* cast upon Him by such *False Apostles*, *Deceitful Workers*, *Transforming themselves into the Apostles of Christ*, like their *True Father the Devil*, *Transforming himself into an Angel of Light*. With what Justice then might He here stand upon the *Comparison*, when thus vilely *Run down*, by such *Wretched*, *Empty*, *Hypocritical Sophisters*? To Appeal to his *Spiritual Gifts*, and *Revelations*, and *Sufferings*, in Competition with such *Impudent*, *Boasting*, *Self-conceited Pretenders*, was the Lowest Act of *Humility*, and *Good-Nature*; to Condescend

scend to Dispute with Such as ought to be Answer'd, not with Arguments, but Anathema's! Yet behold the Singular Modesty of this Great Apostle! He cannot enter upon his Own Justification, without much Reluctance, and a long Apology to Introduce it. *I am become a Fool in Glorifying,* (says He,) *but You have Compell'd Me to it. I speak as concerning Reproach, as tho' We had been Weak: Howbeit, wherein any is Bold, I speak foolishly, I am Bold also. Are They Hebrews? so am I! Are They Israelites? so am I! Are They the Seed of Abraham? so am I! Are They Ministers of Christ? I speak as a Fool, I am more. In Labours more Abundant, in Stripes above Measure, in Prisons more Frequent, in Deaths often; of the Jews Five times receiv'd I Forty Stripes, save One. Thrice was I beaten with Rods, Once was I Ston'd, Thrice I suffer'd Shipwreck, a Night and a Day have I been in the Deep. In Journeyings often, in Peril of Waters, in Perils of Robbers, in Perils by my Own Country-men, in Perils by the Heathen, in Perils in the City, in Perils in the Wilderness, in Perils in the Sea, in Perils amongst FALSE BRETHREN.* In this Rhetorical Abridgment of the Sufferings, and Dangers of his Life, there's a very Observable Gradual; the Apostle still Rises in his Calamities, and puts this Last as the Highest Perfection of his Misery, as that which made the deepest Impression upon his Passions, and what He bore with the Greatest Resentment, and Difficulty. The many severe
Pains,

8 The PERILS of FALSE BRETHREN,

Pains, and Tortures inflicted on his *Body*, were nothing to *This*; nay, the *Good-Nature*, and *Mercy* of *High-way-Men*, and *Pagans*, and even the *Devouring Basem* of the *Deep*, were to be *Preserr'd* before, and sooner (it seems) to be *Trusted* to, than the more certainly *Destructive*, and *Fallacious Basem* of a *Treacherous, FALSE BROTHER*.

I shall take the Expression in its full *Latitude*, without confining it to the express Design of the Place; tho' it were very Obvious to draw a *Parallel* here, betwixt the sad *Circumstances* of the *Church of Corinth* formerly, and of the *Church of England* at present; wherein Her *Holy Communion* has been *Rent*, and *Divided* by *Faction*, and *Schismatical Impostors*; Her *Pure Doctrin* has been *Corrupted*, and *Defil'd*; Her *Primitive Worship*, and *Discipline* *Prophan'd*, and *Abus'd*; Her *Sacred Orders* *Deny'd*, and *Vilify'd*; Her *Priests*, and *Professors* (like *St. Paul*,) *Calumniated*, *Misrepresented*, and *Ridicul'd*; Her *Altars*, and *Sacraments* *Prostituted* to *Hypocrites*, *Deists*, *Socinians*, and *Atheists*; and this done, I wish I could not say, without *Discouragement*, I am sure without *Impanity*, not only by *Our Profess'd Enemies*, but which is worse, by *Our Pretended Friends*, and **FALSE BRETHREN**. But to proceed to the Matter before Us: In my Discourse upon these Words, I shall endeavour,

I. *First*,

I. *First*, To shew in what *Sense*, and upon what *Accounts* Men may be Denominated **FALSE BRETHREN**.

II. *Secondly*, I will lay before you the Great **PERIL**, and *Mischief* of such, both in *Church*, and *State*.

III. *Thirdly*, I will set forth the Heinous *Maliginity*, *Enormous Guilt*, and *Folly* of this *Prodigious Sin*.

IV. *Lastly*, As a Consequence from the Whole, I will undertake to Evince what mighty Reason We have at all Times, and more especially *at present*, to *Stick* firmly to the *Principles* both of Our *Church*, and *Constitution*; and how much it *concerns* Us to *Beware* of all those **FALSE BRETHREN**, that *Desert*, or *Betray* them.

I. And *First*, I will shew in what *Sense*, and upon what *Accounts* Men may be Denominated **FALSE BRETHREN**. In order to which it will be Necessary to State the full Extent of the Nature of **FALSE BROTHERHOOD**.

This Term *ὁμοδυσελπία* being of a *Relative* Signification, must Respect Men as consider'd under all *Social Cases*, or as they are plac'd under
C such

such *Regards*, and *Circumstances*, as in Duty Oblige them both to *Think*, *Speak*, and *Act*, with *Truth*, and *Integrity*, correspondent to their *Inward Principles*, and *Outward Professions*. And wherein they are found *Deviating Wilfully* from Either, by an *Unreasonable Alteration* of *Judgment*, by any *Tacit Mental Reserve*, or *Equivocation*, upon any *Indirect Ends*, or *Designs*, or Guiding their *Expressions*, and *Actions* contrary to these *Stated Rules*, they are Guilty of *Falsehood*, both in *Conscience*, and *Practice*, of a Breach of that *Veracity*, *Justice*, and *Trust*, that they owe to *God*, *Themselves*, and the *World*, and are properly what are styl'd in the Text FALSE BRETHREN. For whereas every Man that either *Believes*, *Speaks*, or *Acts Rationally*, must be suppos'd to have some *Standing-Ground*, and *Measure of Judgment*, settl'd upon some Grand, *Primitive Maxims of Truth*, both *Speculative*, and *Practical*, whether founded upon *Revelation*, *Reason*, or *Honour*, which are what we call any Man's *Principles* either in *Religion*, *Society*, or *Friendship*: If these *Fundamental Axioms* have with true *Deliberation* been *Sifted*, and *Weigh'd*, not only as to their *Intrinsic Nature*, and *Goodness*, but as to their *Outward Tendency*, and *Consequences*, they must appear, tho' not perhaps as *Infallible* in *Themselves*, yet with Respect to the *Person* so considering them, as *Demonstrative Truths*, as the *Light*, and *Oracles of God*, and

Rea-

Reason, set up in his *Breast*; by which He is always *Oblig'd to Direct*, and *Govern his Thoughts, Resolutions, and Actions*; and which if He *swerves from, Disowns, or Betrays*, upon any *Sinister Motive* whatsoever, (tho' after this *Nice Search* they should prove *Erroneous*) involve the Man in a very *Heinous Sin*, *Treacherously* acting against his *Judgment*, and *Giving the Lye* both to his *Faith*, his *Reason*, and his *Knowledge*. This Matter being thus briefly *Premis'd*, it is *Evident*, that with *Regard* to the several *Objects* it is *Conversant* about, Men may in *Three Respects* be term'd *Guilty of FALSE BROTHERHOOD*.

1. *First*, With *Relation to God, the Church, or Religion*, in which they hold *Faith, or Communion*.
2. *Secondly*, With *Relation to the State, Government, or Society*, of which they are *Members*.
3. *Thirdly*, With *Relation to those Private Persons*, with whom they have either *Friendship, Correspondence, or Dealing*.

1. And *First*, He is a *FALSE BROTHER* with *Relation to God, Religion, or the Church* in which He holds *Communion*, that *Believes, Maintains, or Propagates any False, or Heterodox Tenet, or Doctrin*, *Repugnant to the Express Declarations of Scripture, and the Decrees, or Sense of the Church, and Antiquity thereupon*. For as in the

First Alone are contain'd the *Essential Points*, and *Articles* of our most Holy Faith; so the *Primitive Expositions*, *Decisions*, and *Practice* of the *Ancient Writers* of the *Pure*, and *Uncorrupted Ages* of *Christianity*, must certainly be acknowledg'd the *Best*, and most *Authentick Comments* upon their *Meaning*. In *Opposition* to which, if any *Upstart Novelist*, or *Self-conceited Enthusiast*, out of *Pride*, as setting *Himself* above these *Genuine Oracles of Truth*; or out of *Ignorance*, as being *Unacquainted* with the *Learning*, and *Records of Antiquity*; or out of *Perverseness*, scorning to *Submit* his *Understanding* to the *Dictates*, or *Better Reason* of *Others*; or out of *Ambition*, and *Vain-glory*, as *Affecting* to be the *Head*, and *Leader* of some *New Sect*, or *Party*; (*All*, or *Either* of which have, and will be found for ever the *Parents of Heresy*) and should *Break in* upon this *Sacred Depositum* of the *Church*; and should *Attempt Blasphemously* to *Corrupt* that *Inviolable Fountain of Truth*, with *Erroneous Conjectures*, and *Vain Philosophical Systems*; to *Prophane*, and *Degrade* the *Holy Mysteries* of *Religion*, by *Absurd Interpretations*, and *Impudent Reasonings*; should we stick to call such a *Rebel to God*, and *Traytor to his Church*, a **FALSE BROTHER**? If a *Man* should *Dare* not only to *Revive*, but to *Justify* any *Execrable*, *Exploded Heresies*, as those of *Arrius*, and *Nestorius*, denying the *Hypostatical Union*, or the *Eternity* of the *Son of God*; or should affirm that *He was God in Man*,

Man, or that the Godhead was only locally in his Manhood, as God was in the Cloud, or that should Presume to Evacuate the Great Sanction of the Gospel, the Eternity of Hell Torments; or Expound any of the Articles of Our Faith, in such a Loose, and Vagrant way, as may suit 'em as well to a Mabometan's as a Christian's Creed; and to lay open all those Sacred Boundaries of the Church, to let in all Sectarists, and Schismatics, of whatsoever Wild, Romantic, or Enthusiastic Notions, so as to make the House of God not only a Den of Thieves, but a Receptacle of Legions of Devils: Should we cover such a False-Apostle under the Sacred Umbrage of a True-Church-Man? In short, whosoever presumes to Recede the least Tittle from the express Word of God, or to explain the Great Credenda of Our Faith in New-fangl'd Terms of Modern Philosophy, must Publish a New Gospel, Un-God his Saviour, and Destroy his Revelation; and by unsettling the Universal, Receiv'd Doctrin of the Church, give up Christianity into Sceptiscism, and Atheism; and to speak the best of his Character, is FALSE both to his God, and his Religion, and shall be call'd hereafter, *The Least in the Kingdom of Heaven*, how Great soever he may be in the Kingdoms here below. And as a Man may thus Betray the Doctrin of his Church, so is he no less FALSE to it's Interest, that gives up any Point of her Discipline, and Worship. These are the Exterior Fences to Guard the Internals of Religion,

gion, without which they are left Naked, without Beauty, Order, or Defence. Should any Man, out of Ignorance, or Prejudice, to the Ancient Rights, and Essential Constitution of the Catholic Church, affirm, That the Divine Apostolical Institution of Episcopacy, is a Novel Doctrine, not sufficiently Warranted by Scripture, and that 'tis Indifferent whether the Church is Govern'd by Bishops, or Presbyters; Is not such an One an Apostate from his Own Orders? Let the Christian World be Judge, who best Deserve the Name of Church-Men, those that strictly Defend, and Maintain the Catholic Doctrins upon which the Church, as a Society, is Founded; or those who would Barter them for a Mungril-Union of All Sects? Those who Zealously support her Mission, which only can Support her, or those who would Destroy it, to take in Schismatical Presbyters without Episcopal Ordination, which would Un-Church the very Church, and Annihilate her Constitution? Is this the Spirit, and Doctrine of Our Holy Mother? To assert Separation from Her Communion, to be no Schism; or if it was, that Schism is no Damnable Sin; that Occasional Conformity is no Hypocrisy, but rather for the Benefit of the Church; that any One may be an Occasional Conformist with Schismaticks, and yet not Guilty of Schism; that a Christian may serve God in any Way or Congregation of Worship, as well by Extemporary Prayers, as by a Prescrib'd Form, and Liturgy; that Conformity to the Church, and Ecclesiastical

Autbo-

Authority, are no Parts of Morality, and a Good-Life, which are only necessary to Salvation; that the Orders and Ceremonies of the Church, are only Carnal, Arbitrary Ordinances, to be Dispens'd with as Men please, both by Clergy and Laity; that the Censures, and Excommunications of the Church, are meer Bruta Fulmina, Canonical Obedience, and Absolution, Spiritual Tyranny, and Usurpation; and in a Word, that the Whole Body of the Worship, and Discipline of the Church of England, is nothing else but Priestcraft, and Popery in Masquerade. If upon all Occasions to comply with the Dissenters both in Public, and Private Affairs, as Persons of Tender Conscience, and Piety, to promote their Interests in Elections, to Sneak to 'em for Places, and Preferment, to Defend Toleration, and Liberty of Conscience, and under the pretence of Moderation, to excuse Their Separation, and lay the Fault upon the True Sons of the Church, for carrying Matters too high; if to Court the Fanatics in Private, and to hear 'em with Patience, if not Approbation, Rail at and Blaspheme the Church, and upon occasion to Justify the King's Murder; If to Flatter both the Dead and the Living in their Vices, and to tell the World, that if they have Wit, and Money enough they need no Repentance, and that only Fools and Beggars can be Damn'd; If these, I say, are the Modish, and Fashionable Criteria of a True-Church-Man, God deliver Us All from such FALSE BRETHREN!

There

There is another sort of them who are for a *Neutrality in Religion*, who *Really* are of *None*, but are a *secret* sort of *Reserv'd Atheists*, who always pretend to be of the *Church*, Join in the *Herd*, and will sometimes frequent Our *Publick Communion*, as long as the *Government* appears on Our side ; but if any thing is to be got by it, can with as *safe a Conscience* slide privately into a *Conventicle*, and look as *Demure* as the *slyest Saint* amongst 'em. They are equally of *All*, and of *No Communion*, they are the *Gallio's* that *care for none of these Things* ; They tell Us they are for the *Religion Establish'd by Law*, but no longer than 'tis so ; they can see neither *Sin*, nor *Danger* in that *Ecclesiastical Bugbear*, as they call *Schism*, yet talk very loud about *Union*, *Comprehension*, and *Moderation*, by all which *Canting Expressions*, they mean nothing but *Getting Mony*, and *Preferment*, by holding in with Persons of all *Parties*, and *Characters*, *Halting betwixt a Diversity of Opinions*, and *Reconciling God*, and *Belial* for *Gain*. To these we may add those who either out of *Fear*, or *Complaisance*, can tamely, and without *Vindication*, hear their *God*, and *Religion* Blasphem'd and Abus'd. But there are another sort of FALSE BRETHREN, who set up for a greater *Perfection in Piety* than their Neighbours, who like their Originals, the *Pharisees* in the Gospel, are always *Pleading their Merits* before *God*, and the *World*, with an *Ostentation of Sanctity*, in comparison

rison with their *Profane Brethren*, with a *Stand-off*, for *I am Holier than Thou!* These are the *Saints*, that under the Pretence of *Conscience*, shall Commit the most *Abominable Impieties*, and Justify *Murder*, *Sacrilege*, and *Rebellion*, by Texts of Scripture. There are yet another Sort of **FALSE BRETHREN**, of a quite *Opposite Character* to these, who wish well to the *Church of England*, and really Believe that Her *Constitution* in *Doctrine*, *Discipline*, and *Worship*, the Best, and Purest in the *Christian World*; and when either their *Tongues*, *Hands*, or *Purses* are wanting in Her *Defence*, are ready to *Sacrifice* their *Persons*, and *Estates* in Her *Vindication*. These indeed are *Noble Qualifications*, and 'tis pity so Good a *Character* should want any thing to *Com-pleat* it. And to turn the Words of our *Blessed Saviour*, to the *Rich Man*, *Yet One thing thou lackest*, thy *Zeal* is to be shewn *In*, as well as *For*, the *Communion of the Church*, in *Obedying Her Precepts*, as well as *Defending Her Rights*. In all these *Cases* there is a *Serious*, and *Deliberate Act* of *Treachery* against *Conscience* and *Conviction*, a *Base Forfeiture* of that *Spiritual Allegiance* We owe to *God*, and Our *Church*, as a *Sacred Body*, and *Fraternity*, that ought to Preserve *Inviolable Unity*, professing *One Faith*, *One Baptism*, *One God*, and *Saviour of Us All*.

2. But Secondly, *Men may be Denominated FALSE BRETHREN, with Relation to the State, Government, or Society of which they are Members.* The *Constitutions* of most *Governments* differing according to their *several Frames, and Laws*, upon which they are *Built, and Founded*, it is *Impossible* to lay down any *One Universal Rule*, as the *Scheme, and Measure* of *Obedience*, that may *square* to every one of them. Only this *Maxim* in general, I presume, may be *Establish'd* for the *Safety, Tranquillity, and Support* of *All Governments*, that no *Innovation* whatsoever should be *Allow'd* in the *Fundamental Constitution* of any *State*, without a very *Pressing*, nay *Unavoidable Necessity* for it; and whosoever *Singly*, or in a *Private Capacity* should attempt it, is *Guilty* of the *Highest Misdemeanour*, and is an *Enemy* to that *Politick Body* of which He is a *Member*. To apply this *Maxim* to *Our Government*, in which the *Truth* of it will very evidently *Appear*. Our *Constitution* both in *Church, and State* has been so admirably *Contriv'd*, with that *Wisdom, Weight, and Sagacity*, and the *Temper, and Genius* of each, so exactly *Suited, and Modell'd* to the *Mutual Support, and Assistance* of One another, that 'tis hard to say, whether the *Doctrins* of the *Church of England* contribute more to *Authorize, and Enforce* Our *Civil Laws*, or Our *Laws* to *Maintain, and Defend* the *Doctrins* of *Our Church*. The *Natures* of Both are so nicely

Corre-

Correspondent, and so happily *Intermixt*, that 'tis almost impossible to offer a *Violation*, to the *One*, without *Breaking* in upon the *Body* of the *Other*. So that in all those *Cases* before-mention'd, who-soever *Presumes* to *Innovate*, *Alter*, or *Misrepresent* any *Point* in the *Articles* of the *Faith* of our *Church*, ought to be *Arraign'd* as a *Traytor* to our *State* ; *Heterodoxy* in the *Doctrins* of the *One*, Naturally producing, and almost *Necessarily Infering* *Rebellion*, and *High-Treason* in the *Other*, and consequently a *Crime* that concerns the *Civil Magistrate*, as much to *Punish*, and *Restrain*, as the *Ecclesiastical*. However this *Affertion* at first *View* may look like an *High-flown Paradox*, the *Proof* of it will fully appear in a few *Instances*. The *Grand Security* of our *Government*, and the very *Pillar* upon which it *stands*, is founded upon the *Steady Belief* of the *Subject's Obligation* to an *Absolute*, and *Unconditional Obedience* to the *Supream Power*, in *All Things Lawful*, and the utter *Illegality* of *Resistance* upon any *Pretence* whatsoever. But this *Fundamental Doctrin*, notwithstanding it's *Divine Sanction* in the *Express Command* of *God* in *Scripture*, and without which, it is impossible any *Government* of any *Kind*, or *Denomination* in the *World*, should *subsist* with *Safety*, and which has been so long the *Honourable*, and *Distinguishing Characteristic* of *Our Church*, is now, it seems, quite *Exploded*, and *Redicul'd* out of *Countenance*, as an *Unfashionable*, *Superannuated*,

*nuated, nay (which is more wonderful) as a Dangerous Tenet, utterly Inconsistent with the Right, Liberty, and Property of the PEOPLE; who, as our New Preachers, and New Politicians teach us, (I suppose by a New, and Unheard of Gospel, as well as Laws) have in Contradiction to Both, the Power Invested in Them, the Fountain and Original of it, to Cancel their Allegiance at pleasure, and call their Sovereign to account for High-Treason against his Supream Subjects forsooth; nay to Detrone, and Murder Him for a Criminal, as they did the Royal Martyr by a Judiciary Sentence. And what is almost Incredible, presume to make their Court to their Prince, by maintaining such Anti-monarchical Schemes. But, God be Thanked! neither the Constitution of Our Church or State, is so far Alter'd, but that by the Laws of Both, (Still in Force, and which I hope for ever will be) these Damnable Positions, let 'em come either from Rome, or Geneva, from the Pulpit, or the Press, are condemn'd for Rebellion, and High-Treason. Our Adversaries think they effectually stop our Mouths, and have Us Sure and Unanswerable on this Point, when They urge the Revolution of this Day in their Defence. But certainly They are the Greatest Enemies of That, and His Late Majesty, and the most Ungrateful for the Deliverance, who endeavour to cast such Black, and Odious Colours upon Both. How often
must*

must they be told, that the **King Himself* solemnly *Disclaim'd* the Least Imputation of *Resistance* in his *Declaration* ; and that the *Parliament* declar'd, That they set the *Crown* on his Head, upon no other *Title*, but that of the *Vacancy of the Throne*? And did they not Unanimously condemn to the Flames, (as it justly Deserv'd) that *Infamous Libel*, that would have *Pleaded* the *Title of Conquest*, by which *Resistance* was suppos'd? So *Tender* were they of the *Regal Rights*, and so averse to infringe the least Tittle of Our *Constitution*! We see how ready these *Incendiaries* are to take the least Umbrage, to charge their own *Cursed Tenets* on the *Church of England*, to Derive *their Guilt* upon it, and Quit *Scores* with it for *Their Iniquity*! Thus do they endeavour to draw *Comparisons*, and to Justify the horrid *Actions* and *Principles* of *Forty One*, which have been of late Years, to the Scandal of Our *Church*, and Nation, so *Publickly* Defended, not only by the *Agents*, and *Writers* of the *Republican Faction*, but by some that have the *confidence* to Style themselves *Sons*, and *Presbyters* of the *Church of England* ; who in open

* His *Highness* Declares, in *Opposition* to those who give out, That We do intend to CONQUER and ENSLAVE these NATIONS, that we have thought fit to add a few Words to Our *Declaration* ; " It is " not to be imagin'd, that either *those* who have *Invited* Us, or *those* who " are already come to *Assist* Us, can *Joyn* in a *WICKED ATTEMPT* " of *CONQUEST*, to make void their Own *Lawful Titles* to their " *Honours, Estates, and Interests*. See the *Prince of Orange's Declaration*. *Dr. Kennet's History of the Four Last Reigns*, p. 493.

Defiance of the most peremptory Declarations of God in Scripture, (never to be evaded by any Shifts, or Misinterpretations) and the Universal Doctrin, and Expositions of the Catholick Church upon it in all Ages, with the express Testimony, and Concurrence of Our Church, from it's Reformation down to the Present Times, Corroborated with the Sense of Our Legislature, so unexceptionably Confirm'd in Our Laws, Dare, in Despight and Contempt of all this Evidence, manifestly Defend the Resistance of the Supream Power, under a New-fangl'd Notion of Self-Defence; the only Instance they shew of Shame, that they dare not Y E T, maintain Rebellion by it's Proper Name. Yet, if those silly Pretences, and weak Excuses for it alledg'd, carry any Strength, or Reason in them at all, they will equally serve to Justify All the Rebellions that ever were, or can be committed in the World. Now as the Republicans Copy after the Papists in most of their Doctrins and Practices, I would fain know in this, where the Difference lies, betwixt the Power Granted to, (as 'tis suppos'd Originally invest'd, but from what Commission God knows) in the People, to Judge and Detrone their Sovereigns; for any Cause they think fit, or a no less Usurp'd Power of the Pope, to save the People from their Allegiance, and dispose of Scepters, and Diadems to his Favourites, whenever he thinks it his Interest to pluck them from his Enemies Heads. Comparisons are generally Odious; but a Learned

Bi-



Bishop of our Kingdom, whose Aversion to Popery I hope, is not doubted, I mean the * Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Sarum, has been bold Judiciously to Determin, even on the *Papist's* Side in this Case, That if such a *Deposing Power* is to be entrusted in *Mortals Hands*, less *Inconveniences* will ensue in placing it in *One*, than in *Many*, tho' God forbid it ever should be Lodg'd in any other than that of God himself, the *Original* of all Power, from whom it proceeds, and to whom it must Return, the *King of Kings*, *Lord of Lords*, and *ONLY Ruler of Princes*. So that these *Romantick wild* Notions will carry Us into something worse (if 'tis possible) than *Popery* itself; more *Fatal* to the *Rights* and *Interests* of the *Crown*, and the *Welfare*, and *Tranquillity* of *Our Constitution*, which can never be *Safe* under such *Precarious Dependencies*, and *Despotic Imaginations*. A Prince indeed in *another* Sense, will be the *Breath* of his *Subject's Nostrils*, to be Blown in, or out, at their *Caprice*, and *Pleasure*, and a worse *Vassal* than even the meanest of his *Guards*. Such *Villainous*

* Less Disorder may be apprehended from the *Presentions* of the *Roman Bishops*, than from these *Maxims*, that put the *Power* of *Judging* and *Controlling* the *Magistrates* in the *PEOPLE's* Hands, which opens a Door to *Endless Confusions*, and indeed, sets every *Private Person* upon the *Throne*, and introduceth an *Anarchy*, which will never admit of *Order*, and *Remedy*, whereas, Those who have but *One PRETENDER* over Them, coo'd more easily deal with Him, and more Vigorously *RESIST* Him. [*Vindication of the Church of Scotland, Printed at Glasgow, 1673. p. 68, 69.*]

and *Seditious Principles* as these, Demand a *Confutation* from that *Government* they so *insolently Threaten*, and *Arraign*, and which are only *Proper* to be *Answer'd* by that *Sword* they would make our *Princes bear in Vain*, by the *So-long-call'd-for Censure* of an *Ecclesiastical Synod*, and the *Correction* of a *Provok'd and Affronted Legislature*, to whose *Strict Justice*, and *undeserv'd Mercy*, I commit both *them* and *Their Authors*. Only give me leave to dismiss 'em with a *Remark* of the *Pious and Learned Bishop Andrews* upon some of their **FALSE BRETHREN** in his Time. * *What* (says that Good Prelate) *is now become of those Words of God, Touch not mine Anointed? Are we not fallen into Strange Times, that Men dare thus Print and Publish, yea, even Preach, and Proclaim their Sins; even those sinful and Shameless Positions, to the Eyes, and Ears of the Whole World? Whereby God's Anointed are Endanger'd, Men's Souls are Poyson'd, Christian Religion is Blasphem'd as a Murtherer of her Own Kings; God in his Charge is openly Contradicted, and Men made Believe, they shall go to Heaven in breaking God's Commandments.* What could have been spoken with a more *Prophetical Spirit*, of these *filthy Dreamers*, These *Presumptuous and Self-will'd Men*, *Despisers of Dominion, and Government*, who are not afraid to speak *Evil*

* Sermon 3 on the Conspiracy of the *GOWRIES*, Preach'd before the King at *Holdenbeigh*, Aug. 5. 1610. p. 808.

of Dignities, who wrest the Word of God to their Own, and their deluded People's Perdition, and think to Consecrate even the worst of Sins, with what is almost Analogous to the Blasphemy against the Holy Ghost! These FALSE BRETHREN in Our Government, do not Singly, and in Private spread their Poyson, but (what is lamentable to be spoken) are suffer'd to combine into Bodies, and Seminaries, wherein Atheism, Deism, Tritheism, Socinianism, with all the Hellish Principles of Fanaticism, Regicide, and Anarchy, are openly Profess'd, and Taught, to Corrupt and Debauch the Youth of the Nation, in all Parts of it, down to Posterity, to the Present Reproach, and Future Extirpation of Our Laws, and Religion. Certainly the Toleration was never intended to Indulge, and Cherish such Monsters, and Vipers in our Bosom, that scatter Their Pestilence at Noon-day, and will Rend, Distract, and Confound, the firmest and Best-settl'd Constitution in the World. In short, as the English Government can never be Secure on any other Principles, but strictly Those of the Church of England, so I will be bold to say, where any Part of it is Trusted in Persons of any Other Notions, They must be False to Themselves, if They are True to Their Trusts; or if They are True to Their Opinions, and Interests, must Betray That Government They are Enemies to upon Principle. Indeed, We must do 'em that Justice, to confess, 'That since the Sectarists have found out a way

E

(which

(which their *Fore-fathers*, God knows, as *Wicked* as they were, would have *Abhorr'd*) to swallow not only *Oaths*, but *Sacraments*, to *Qualify* themselves to get into *Places*, and *Preferments*; these *Sanctify'd Hypocrites* can put on a *shew of Loyalty*, and seem tolerably *Easy* in the *Government*, if they can Engross the *Honours* and *Profits* of it; but let *Her Majesty* reach out *Her Little Finger* to touch their *Loyns*, and these *Sworn Adversaries* to *Passive Obedience*, and the *Royal Family*, shall fret themselves, and *Curse* their *Queen*, and their *God*, and shall look upwards. And so much for Our *Political FALSE BRETHREN*, till I come to speak with 'em again by and by. I proceed,

3. In the Third Place, to a more *Inferior Species* of Them, that *Act* in a *Lower Sphere*, namely *Those who in their Private Capacities*, are *FALSE* either in their *Friendship*, *Correspondence*, or *Dealing*; But these *Sins of Unfaithfulness*, as the *Psalmist* calls them, being of so *Copious*, and *Extensive* a Nature, and *Respecting* the *Private Concerns* of *Human Life*, I shall only trouble You with enumerating some of the *General Instances* of them: Such as are, *Betraying Our Friend* in his *Secrets*, *Deserting* him in his *Misfortunes*, in not *Defending* his *Reputation*, when *falsely Accus'd*, in an *Obsequious Compliance* with Him in any *Indirect*, or *Dis honourable Measures*, in a *Nauseous Flattery* of his *Follies*, or *Vices*, in *Permitting* him in any *Error*, without *Admonition*, and in giving him *wrong Advice*,

Advice, and not leading him out of it. Such are also with regard to Our Neighbour, the Concealing, or Misrepresenting any Truth that he is Concern'd to know, Playing upon his Faith with Doubtful and ambiguous Insinuations, with Double Equivocations, and Dissimulatory Expressions, an Actual Breach of Word, Promise, or Profession, Clandestine Undermining by Circumvention, Fraud, or Craft, Back-biting, and secretly Slandering, Propagating Scandal, and Bearing False-Witness, and Partaking several ways in his Sins ; which are all the Characteristicks of an Insidious, Treacherous, and False-hearted Knave. But these Vices being of a Private Consideration, I hasten to the next General Head propos'd, Namely,

II. Secondly, *To lay before You the Great Peril, and Mischiefs of these FALSE BRETHREN in Church, and State ;* which I shall endeavour to do, by Proving that They Weaken, Undermine, and Betray in Themselves, and Encourage, and put it in the Power of Our Profess'd Enemies, to Overturn, and Destroy the Constitution, and Establishment of Both.

1. And First, as to the Church. But here it is very Necessary to Premise, That by the Church of England, We are to understand the True Genuine Notion of it, as it stands Contra-distinguish'd in it's Establish'd Doctrin, Discipline, and Worship, from all Other Churches, and Schismatics, who would Obtrade upon Us, a Wild, Negative Idea of a NATIONAL CHURCH, so as to In-

corporate Themselves into the Body, as True Members of it ; Whereas 'tis evident that this Latitudinarian, Heterogeneous Mixture of all Persons of what Different Faith soever, Uniting in Protestancy, (which is but One Single Note of the Church of England) would render it the most Absurd, Contradictory, and Self-Inconsistent Body in the World. This Spurious, and Villainous Notion, which will take in Jews, Quakers, Mahometans, and any thing as well as Christians, as ridiculously incongruous as 'tis, may be first Observ'd, as One of those Prime, Popular Engines, Our FALSE BRETHREN, have made Use of, to Undermine the very Essential Constitution of Our Church ; which, as it stands Guarded with it's Own Sacred Fences, with Her only True Sons in Her Bosom, may Defy all the Malice of the Devil, and Her Enemies, to Prevail against Her. But such is Her hard Fortune, Her Worst Adversaries must be let into Her Bowels, under the holy Umbrage of Sons, who neither Believe Her Faith, Own Her Mission, Submit to Her Discipline, or Comply with Her Liturgy. And to admit this Religious Trojan Horse, big with Arms, and Ruine, into Our Holy City, the Streight Gate must be laid quite Open, Her Walls, and Inclosures pull'd down, and an High-Road made in upon Her Communion, and this Pure Spouse of Christ Prostituted to more Adulterers than the Scarlet Whore in the Revelations. Her Articles must be Taught the Confusion of all Senses, Nations, and
Languages,

Languages, to render Her a *Babel*, and *Desolation*. This was indeed the Ready way to *Fill the House of God*, but with what? with *Pagan Beasts*, instead of *Christian Sacrifices*, with such *Unhallow'd, Loathsome, and Detestable Guests*, as would have Driv'n out the *Holy Spirit of God* with *Indignation*. This Pious Design of making Our *House of Prayer a Den of Thieves*, of *Reforming Our Church* into a *Chaos*, is well known to have been *Attempted several times in This Kingdom*, and lately within Our *Memory*, when all Things seem'd to *Favour it*, but that *Good Providence*, which so happily *Interpos'd*, against the *Ruine of Our Church*, and *Blasted the Long-projected Scheme* of these *Ecclesiastical Arbitophels*. A Scheme so *Monstrous, so Romantic, and Absurd*, that 'tis hard to say, whether it had more of *Villainy*, or *Folly* in it, and which even the *Sectarists* of all Sorts (who will not be satisfy'd with any thing less than *Sovereignty*) *Exploded, and Laugh'd at, as Ridiculous, and Impracticable*. It was doubtless a *Wise way to Exemplify Our Brotherly Love, and Charity for the Souls of Men*, to put both *Them, and Ourselves* into a *Gulph of Perdition*, by throwing up the *Essentials of our Faith*, and the *Uniformity of our Worship*. But since this *Model of an Universal Liberty, and Coalition* fail'd, and these **F-A-L-S-E B-R-E-T-H-R-E-N** could not carry the *Conventicle* into the *Church*, they are now *Resolv'd to bring the Church into the*

Con-

Conventicle, which will more *Plausibly*, and *Slily* Effect Her *Ruine*. What could not be gain'd by *Comprehension*, and *Toleration*, must be brought about by *Moderation*, and *Occasional Conformity*, that is, what they could not do by *Open Violence*, they will not fail by *Secret Treachery*, to *Accomplish*. If the *Church* can't be *Pull'd down*, it may be *Blown up*; and no matter with these Men *How 'tis Destroy'd*, so that it is *Destroy'd*. Now let Us, I beseech You in the Name of God, fairly consider what must be the *Consequence* of this *Scandalous Fluctuation*, and *Trimming* betwixt the *Church*, and *Dissenters*, both in *Conscience*, and *Prudence*. Does not this *Innovating in*, *Giving up*, or *Receding from*, any *One Point*, or *Article* in our *Faith*, *Violate*, and *Affect* the *Whole Frame*, and *Body* of it? Can we either *Add to*, or *Diminish from*, the *Least Part* of our *Religion*? Are we to take it's *Constitution* as our *Saviour*, and his *Apostles Deliver'd* it down to Us; or have we *Authority* to *Curtail*, *Mangle*, or *Alter* it, to *Suit* it to the *Pride*, *Humours*, *Caprice*, and *Qualm-sick Stomachs*, of *Obstinate*, *Moody*, *Wayward*, and *Self-conceited Hypocrites*, and *Enthusiasts*? Will not such a *Base*, and *Time-serving Compliance* give the *Enemies* of *Our Church* an *Occasion* of *Blaspheming* Her as *Weak*, and *Inconstant*? Will it not *Argue* the *Illegality* of Her *Ordinances*, and *Laws*, or that they were too *Rigid*, and wanted an *Abatement*? Will

Will not this *Harden, Encourage*, nay *Justify* the *Dissenters* in their *Opinion* of their *Separation*, when they see such large *Allowances*, and *Concessions* made in it's *Favour*? What *Dishonourable*, and *Unworthy Opinions* must they entertain of the *Priests* of *that Church*, who can *Sacrifice* their most *Solemn Declarations*, and *Oaths* to *Complaisance*, and *Preferment*? What would be the *End* of All this, but to *Establish Heresy*, and *Eraſtianism* upon the *Ruines* of our *Faith*, and *Discipline*? Would not this *Spiritual Legerdemain*, this *Fallacious Tricking*, and *Double-dealing*, *Eradicate* all the *Principles of Truth*, and *Honesty*, or *Piety* out of Men's *Minds*, make 'em *Unconcern'd*, whether there is *Any*, or *No Religion*, Run 'em into an *Universal Scepticism*, and *Infidelity*, and make 'em All *Atheists*, or *Papists*? For when they had *Turn'd about*, and *about*, and were grown *Giddy* with *Change*, they would either Give up *Themselves* to the *Disbelief of all things*, or Rest their *Weary'd Judgments* in the *Authority* of *that Church alone*, that can *Delude* 'em with the *Specious Pretences* of an *Infallible Guide*. Thus Our **FALSE BRETHREN**, as the *Jews* did our *Blessed Saviour*, *Crucify* his *Church Betwixt Thieves*; and as they committed that *Excecrable Villainy* under a *Pretended Fear* lest the **ROMANS** should come and take away their *Place*, and *Nation*, which by that very *Fact* They brought upon *Themselves*: So these Men, out of a *Fi-*
ctitious

Artificial Fear lest the *Modern ROMANS* should come, and Destroy *Our Church*, are Working *that Ruine* they pretend to Avoid, and under a *False Zeal* of Keeping out Popery, are Themselves infallibly Bringing in *That very P O P E R Y* into *Our Kingdom*, with which they so *Falsely*, and ungratefully endeavour to Attaint the Church of *England*, the *Greatest Bulwark*, and only Safe-Guard against Popery in the whole *World*! Tho' it were highly to be wish'd that those *Excellent Laws* made for Her Defence, and Security were at present put Strictly into Execution; for the *Roman-Catholic* Agents, and Missionaries that swarm about this *Great City*, as it were in Defiance and Contempt of them, were never more Busy in making Profelytes to their *Superstition*, and *Idolatry*, and Perverting and Debauching *Her Majesty's Subjects* in ever Corner of our Streets.

2. Thus we see how *Dangerous* these *FALSE BRETHREN* are to *Our Church*, which is so Great, and Considerable a *Branch* of our *Civil Constitution*, that the Support of *Our Government* depends upon it's *Welfare*, and what *Affects* That, must strike at the *Foundation* of *Our State*; *Innovations* in *Either* tending to the *Subversion* of their *Laws*, and the Unsettling their *Establishment*, and consequently to *Anarchy*, and *Confusion*. But to draw this *Argument* more home to the *Point*; I will endeavour to Prove, that our *FALSE BRETHREN* are as Destructive of

of our Civil, or Ecclesiastical Rights. For first it cannot be deny'd, that tho' They do submit to the Government, their Obedience is Forc'd, and Constrain'd, and therefore so Treacherous, and Uncertain, as never to be Truſted, becauſe proceeding upon no Principle, but meer Intereſt and Ambition; and whenever That changes, their Allegiance muſt follow it; and therefore (to uſe their Own Expreſſion) are as much Occaſional Loyalists to the State, as They are Occaſional Conformiſts to the Church; that is, They will Betray either, whenever it is in their Power, and They think it for their Advantage. FALSEHOOD always implies Treachery; and whether That is a Qualification for any One to be Truſted, eſpecially with the Guardianship of our Church, or Crown, let our Governors conſider. And certainly nothing but the moſt Sottiſh Infatuation, can ſo far Blind both our Eyes, and our Judgments, as to make us Believe, that the ſame Cauſes ſhould not produce the ſame Effects, and that the ſame Latitudinarian, and Republican Notions ſhould not bring forth the ſame Rebelious, and Pernicious Conſequences. They are pleas'd now to ſofter their Lex'd Principles, and cover their Dangerous Tenets with the Name of Speculative Opinions; but what Fatal Practices they have created, and whether theſe Seditious Thoughts will not again Exemplify themſelves in the ſame Bloody Actions, We ſhall be Convinc'd, to our Sorrow, if We don't Apprehend

bend. That the *Old Leaven* of their *Fore-fathers* is still *Working* in their *Present Generation*, and that this *Traditional Poyson* still remains in this *Brood* of *Vipers*, to *Sting Us* to *Death*, is sufficiently *Visible*, from the *Dangerous Encroachments* They now make upon our *Government*, and the *Treasonable Reflections* They have *Publish'd* on Her *Majesty*, God Bless Her! Whose *Hereditary Right* to the *Throne*, They have had the *Impudence* to *Deny*, and *Cancel*, to make Her a *Creature* of their own *Power*; and that by the same *Principles* They plac'd a *Crown* upon Her, They tell Us, *They*, (that is, the *Mob*) may *Re-assume* it at their *Pleasure*. Nay, now They have *Advanc'd* themselves from the *Religious Liberty* Our *Gracious Sovereign* has *Indulg'd* them, to *Claim* a *Civil Right*, as they *Term* it, and to *Justle* the *Church* out of Her *Etablissement*, by *Hoisting* their *Toleration* into it's *Place*; and to convince Us what *alone* will *satisfy* 'em, insolently *Demand* the *Repeal* of the *Corporation*, and *Test Acts*, as an *Ecclesiastical Usurpation*, which indeed under Her *Majesty* (whom God long *Preserve* for it's *Comfort* and *Support*!) is the only *Security* the *Church* has to *Depend* upon. And which they have so far *Eluded* by their *Abominable Hypocrisy*, as to have *Undermin'd* Her *Foundations*, and *Indanger* the *Government*, by filling it with it's *Profess'd Enemies*. These *Charges* are so *Flagrant*, and *Undeniable*, that a *Man* must be very *Weak*, or *something worse*, that thinks, or
 Pre-

Pretends, the *Dissenters* are to be *Gain'd*, or won over by any other *Grants*, and *Indulgences*, than giving up our *Whole Constitution*: And He that recedes the least *Tittle* from it, to satisfy, or *Ingratiate* with these *Clamorous*, *Insatiable*, and *Church-Devouring Malignants*, knows not what Spirit They are of, or He ought to shew who is a *True Member* of Our Church. Have They not ever since their first *Unhappy Plantation* in this Kingdom, by the Intercession of *That False Son* of the Church, *Bishop Grindall*, always *Improv'd*, and *Rise* upon their *Demands* in the *Permission* of the Government? Inſomuch that *Queen Elizabeth*, that was Deluded by that *Perfidious Prelate* to the *Toleration* of the *Genevian Discipline*, found it ſuch an *Headſtrong*, and *Encroaching Monster*, that in *Eight Years*, She foreſaw it would *Endanger* the *Monarchy*, as well as the *Hierarchy*: And like a *Queen of True Reſolution*, and *Pious Zeal* for Both pronounc'd, ' That ſuch were the *Reſtleſs Spirits* of that **FACTIOUS** People, that no *Quiet* was to be *Expected* from them, till they were utterly *Suppreſs'd*: Which, like a *Prudent Princeſs*, She did by *Wholſome Severities*, that the Crown for many Years ſat *Easy*, and *Flouriſhing* on Her Head. And had Her *Successor*, *King James*, but follow'd Her *Wiſe Politicks*, his Son had never ſaln a *Martyr* to their *Fury*, nor any of his *Unhappy Offspring* ſuffer'd thoſe *Diſaſtrous Calamities*, which made the *Royal Family* One continu'd *Sacrifice* to their *Malice*. And what better

could have been expected from *Miscreants, Begot in Rebellion, Born in Sedition, and Nurs'd up in Faction*? I would not here be Misunderstood, as if I intended to cast the least Invidious Reflection upon that *Indulgence* the Government has condescended to give 'em, which I am sure all those that wish well to Our Church are very ready to Grant to *Consciences truly Scrupulous*; let *Them* Enjoy it in the full Limits the *Law* has Prescrib'd. But let them also *move* within their *Proper Sphere*, and not grow *Eccentrick*, and like *Comets* that *Barst* their *Orb*, Threaten the *Ruine*, and *Downfall* of Our *Church*, and *State*. Indeed they tell us they have *Relinquish'd* the *Principles*, as well as the *Sins* of their *Fore-fathers*: If so, why do they not *Renounce* their *Schism*, and come *Sincerely* into Our *Church*? Why do they *Pelt* Her with more *Blasphemous Libels*, and *Scurrilous Lampoons*, than were ever Publish'd in *Oliver's Usurpation*? Have they not lately *Villainously* Divided us with *Knavish Distinctions* of *Highb*, and *Low-Church* Men? Are not the *Best Characters* they can give Us, those of *Papists, Jacobites*, and *Conspirators*? And what do they mean by all this *Insidious Cant*, but by *False Insinuations*, and raising *Groundless Jealousies*, and *Fears*, to *Imbroil* the *Publick*, and to bring it into that *Confusion*, they are *Suggesting* upon Us? Whether these Men are not *Contriving*, and *Plotting* our utter *Ruine*, and whether all those *FALSE BRETHREN*, that fall in with these *Measures*, and *Designs*,
do

do not ~~not~~ contribute basely to it, I leave every Impartial Man that wishes the *Welfare* of Our *Constitution* to Determine: And if we find this true in *Fact*, What Reason have we to think, but that the *National Sins* are *Ripen'd* up to a full Maturity, to call down Vengeance from *Providence* on a Church and Kingdom, thus *Debauch'd* in it's *Principles*, and *Corrupted* in it's *Manners*, and instead of the *True Faith*, *Discipline*, and *Worship*, given over to all Licentiousness, both in *Opinion*, and *Practice*, to all *Sensuality*, *Hypocrisy*, *Lewdness*, and *Atheism*? And now are We under || no Danger in these *Deplorable Circumstances*? Must || We Lull Ourselves under this *sad Repose*; and in such a *Stupid*, *Lethargic Security*, Embrace Our Ruine? When *Elisha*, the Great Prophet of God, was Surrounded with an *Host of Enemies*, that sought for his Life, his *Blind Servant* beheld not the *Peril* his Master was in, till his *Eyes* were Open'd by *Miracle*, and he found himself in the *midst of Horses and Chariots of Fire*. I pray God We may be out of *Danger*! but we may remember the *King's Person* was *Voted* to be so, at the *same Time* that his *Murderers* were *Conspiring* his *Death*. What I have thus freely spoken, I hope is as much without Offence, as it proceeds from a Good Intention, and a Tender Concern for Her *Majesty's Person*, and *Government*, and an hearty Zeal for the *Honour* and *Safety* of our *Excellent Church*, and *Constitution*. I entreat Your Patience,

III. Briefly to *set forth the Heinous Malignity, Enormous Guilt, and Folly of this Prodigious Sin of FALSE-BROTHERHOOD.*

I. And First, With Regard to God and Religion. It is a most Perfidious *Apostacy* from, and *Reproach* upon *Both*: It is no Less than *Renouncing Our Allegiance* to our *Almighty Sovereign*, an *Open Denial*, and *Prostitution* of Our most Holy *Faith*, and *Church*, upon which *Crime* God has *Entail'd* so many *Dreadful Threats*, and *Anathema's*. It is *Betraying* Our most Solemn *Oaths*, proving *False* to Our *Sacred Trust*, and *Commission*, *Administring* to, and *Indulging* Men in the most *Mortal Sins*, *Endangering* both our *Own*, and the *Salvation* of that *Dear Flock*, for which *Christ Dy'd*, by *Exposing* it to the *Corruptions of Heresy*, and *Schism*, the *Impostures of False-Apostles*, and the *Deceit*, and *Malice of Wolves in Sheep's-Cloathing*. It is *Deriving* the highest *Blasphemy*, and *Dishonour* upon the *Holy Spirit of God*, thus to *Prevaricate* with his *Immutable Oracles of Truth*, in *Wresting* 'em to maintain the most *Diabolical Falshoods*, and *Errors*, and making *Veracity* itself the *Author*, and *Patronizer* of *Lyes*. It is *Forfaking* Our *Baptismal Covenant*, basely *Deserting* the *Glorious Colours* we are *Listed under*, *Turning Refugees* from our *Saviour*, and *Adherents* to his most *Abjur'd Enemies*. In a Word, to *Accomplish* any wretched *Secular Design*, to *Gratify* their *Pride*, or *Ambition*, to *Feed* their *Lust*, or *Avarice*,

Avarice, to Wreak their Spleen, or Revenge, out of Envy, or Disappointment, for a Little, Paultry Honour, Money, or Preferment, These FALSE BRETHREN will Renounce their Creed, and Read the Decalogue backward, be the very Reverse of Our Blessed Saviour (whom like their Primitive Pattern, they first Sell, and then Betray) Fall down and Worship the very Devil himself, for the Riches and Honours of this World.

2. *Secondly, In Regard to the World. What a vast Scandal, and Offence must it give to all Persons of Piety, and Integrity, to see Men of Character, and Stations, thus Shift, and Prevaricate with their Principles, and Starting from their Religion upon any Occasion of Difficulty, or Trial, and like the Disciples, flying from, and forsaking Our Saviour, when his Life lay at Stake? To see Men's Opinions sit as Loose about 'em as their Garments, to be put on, or off, for Convenience? What can Unwary Persons conclude from such Tergiversation, and Hypocrisy, but that All Religion is State-Craft, and Imposture? That All Godliness is Gain; and that the Doctrines of the Church, lie not so much in Her Articles, as Her Honours, and Revenues? Without doubt, this Modern Latitude, and infamous Double-Dealing, as it can proceed from nothing but the Rankest Atheism, so it must Propagate it wheresoever it goes; and 'tis not to be Question'd, but that the Wonderful Increase, and Impudent Appearance of all Sects and Heresies, in this Kingdom at present, beyond what was ever*

ever known in *Former Ages*, is chiefly to be Attributed to it. But this *Crime* is as *Pernicious* to *Human Society*, as *Religion*; for it *Destroys All Common Honesty, Faith, and Credit* in the *World*, and in the place of it, sets up an *Universal Trade* of *Cousenage, Sharping, Dissimulation, and downright Knavery*. For, what *Dependance* can there be upon a *Man of no Principles*? What *Trust* in *Equivocations, Evasions, and Lyes*? Nor indeed could any One be suppos'd so *Sottish*, as to place the least *Confidence* in these *Men*, did they not *Bait their Hook, and Cover their Treachery* with the *Sacred, and Plausible Pretences of FRIENDSHIP*, whereby they are capable of doing much more *Mischief, than a barefac'd and profess'd Enemy*. In what moving and *Lively Colours* does the *Holy Psalmist* Paint out the *Crafty Insidiousness* of such wilely *Volpones*? *Wickedness*, (says he) *is therein, Deceit and Guile go not out of their Streets*. For it is not an *Open Enemy* that has done me this *Dishonour*, for then I could have born it: Neither was it mine *Adversary* that did *Magnify himself against Me*, for then peradventure I would have hid myself from him: But, it was even *Thou!* my *Companion, my Guide, and mine own Familiar Friend*. We took *sweet Counsel together, and walked in the House of God as Friends*. There is no *Faithfulness* in their *Mouths*, their *inward Parts* are very *Wickedness*; their *Throats* are *Open Sepulchres*, and their *Words* are *smother than Oil*, yet be they very *Swords*. Like *Joab*, they pretend to speak *Peaceably, and smite Us Mortally under the Fifth Rib*.

3. *Thirdly, With Regard to a Man's Self*, it is hard to Distinguish whether our FALSE BROTHERN prove themselves Guilty of more excessive *Knavery*, or *Folly*. For whatever these *Cunning, Temporizing Politicians* may think, they will find, after all their *Shuffling*, and *Compliance*, that the *Plain Road of Truth, Honesty, and Integrity*, is both the most *Prudent*, as well as the *Safest Way* they can follow, and that the *Wisdom of this World* is as much *Forsliffness* with *Men*, as 'tis with *God*. For certainly there is no Sin that so much *Disappoints* it's *Own Ends* as *This* does. Perhaps the *Man* may Obtain the *Present Advantage*, He has in *Prospect*, by relinquishing his *Old Friends*, and *Principles*; but is ever such a *Mercenary Convert* receiv'd heartily into the *Bosom* of his *Former Enemies*? Or are *They* ever found so *Credulous*, and *Good-natur'd*, as to *Forgive*, and *Believe* such an *Apostate Cordial*, and *Sincere*, and fit to be *Trusted* in any Matter of *Weight*, or *Importance*, who has *Betray'd* his *Own Party* for the *Little, Sordid Lucre* of a *Place*, or *Preferment*? And is agen ready to be *Retrograde*, whenever the *Wind* shall *Change*, and *Veer about*? Such a FALSE BROTHER may serve the *Present Turn* of his *Adversaries*, who may seem whilst they want the *TOOL*, to *Flatter*, and *Caress* him; but let such a *Turn-Coat* rest assur'd, H. shall meet with *Hypocrisy*, for *Hypocrisy*; and since He is got upon the *Stage*, shall *Act his Part*, and be *Hiss'd off* when

G

He

He has done? Such a *Wise Game* do our *Projectors* Play, they *Barter*, and *Betray* their *Friends*, only to *Sell* themselves *Slaves* into the *Hands* of their *Enemies*, who shall *Treat* them with more *Insolence*, *Disdain*, and *Tyranny*, than *Honest Men* do with *Scorn*, and *Contempt*, if they don't go the *whole Lengths* of their *Party*, *stick at Nothing*, tho' never so *Impious*, and *Abſurd*, and run from one *Extream* to a quite *Contrary*. Thus *Little*, thus *Base*, thus *Odious*, thus *Contemptible*, thus *Servile*, nay thus *Execrable* is the *Traytor*, and *Double-Dealer* in the *Sight*, not only of all *Honest Men*, but the most *Profess'd Knaves*, and *Hypocrites*! Who cannot but have a *Tacit Regard*, and *Veneration* for a *Man of Steadiness*, and *Probity*, that upon *All Occasions* is *True to Himself*, and his *Cause*, is above the *Threats*, as well as *Flatteries* of this *World*, still *Trusting* in his *God*, and his own *Integrity*, and *Justice*, *Despising* his *Interest*, or *Success*, and is under all *Circumstances* like that *God*, and *Religion* He *Believes*, and *Serves*, without *Variableness*, or *Shadow of Change*, but is the same to day, to morrow, and for ever. Farther, these *FALSE BRETHREN* cannot be more *Odious* to *God*, and *Man*, than they are to *Themselves*, who are always a *Self-Contradiction*, full of *Confusion*, and *Perplexity*, perpetually *Haunting* themselves, the *Worst of Demons*, maintaining an *Irreconcilable War* betwixt the *Outward*, and *Inward Man*, *Conformists* in *Profession*, *Half-Conformists*

mists in Practice, and Non-Conformists in Judgment. Such a Mixture of Inconsistency, and Nonsense, that any One that has the least Spark of Conscience, or Reason, must Renounce, and Detest. But this dismal Effect has such a State of Habitual Hypocrisy, that it quite Damps, and Extinguishes Both, Quenches the Holy Spirit of God, and Crucifies his Son afresh; and as it finds a Man void of Shame, generally without a Miraculous Conversion leaves him incapable of Repentance, and both Damns him here, and hereafter; and as He Chose it in This World, Appoints him in the Next, his Portion with Hypocrites, and Unbelievers, with all Lyars, that have their Part in the Lake which Burns with Fire and Brimstone, with the Grand Father of Falshood, the Devil, and his Angels. And so here We leave our FALSE BRETHREN, in the Company they always keep Correspondence with.

IV. Now what should be the Result of this Long Discourse, but that if We bear any True Concern for the Interest, Honour, and Safety of Our Church, and Government, We ought stedfastly to Adhere to those Fundamental Principles, upon which Both are Founded, and upon which their Security, under God alone, depends, and consequently that it highly Behoves Us, *Cautiously* to Watch against, to Mark, and Avoid All those that thus Treacherously Desert them. And indeed it would be both for Our Advantage, as well as Their Credit, if such Men

would throw off the *Mask*, entirely Quit Our Church, of which They are no *True Members*, and not fraudulently *Eat Her Bread*, and lay wait for Her Ruine, *Purloin Her Revenues*, and ungratefully *Lift up their Heels* against Her. For then We should be *One Fold* under *One Shepherd*, all those *Invidious Distinctions* that now *Distraſt*, and *Confound Us* Loſt, and We should be *Terrible* like an *Army* of *Banners* to our *Enemies*, who could never *Break in* upon ſuch an *Uniform*, and *Well-compacted Body*. This indeed would be a *True Peace*, and *Solid Union*, when We should *All with One Mind*, and *One Mouth*, *Glorify God*, and not with a *Confus'd Diversity* of *Contradictious Opinions*, and inconfiſtent *Jargon* of *Worſhip*; which the *God of Peace*, *Purity*, and *Order* cannot but *Abbor*. As it is a *Maxim* in *Politicks*, that *All Governments* are beſt ſupported by the *ſame Methods*, and *Counſels* upon which they were *Founded*; ſo it will appear undeniably *True* in it's *Application* to Our *Conſtitution*, which can be *Maintain'd* by no *Other Principles*, but *Thoſe* on which it is *Built*, and like their *Baſis*, the *Gofpel*, if there's any *Violation*, or *Breach* made in any *Branch* of it, it *Shakes* and *Endangers* the whole *Frame*, and *Body*. Theſe Things, however *Little* they may be, *Repreſented* by Our *Adverſaries*, will be found of the moſt *Conſiderable Conſequence*. Let Us therefore, as We are unhappily *Sharers* of *St. Paul's Miſfortune*, to have Our Church in *Perils* among *FALSE BRETHREN*, follow his

Exam-

Example, and Conduct in a Parallel Case. He tells us in his Epistle to the Galatians, c. 2. That he was Obstructed, and Pester'd in his Preaching the Gospel, by FALSE BRETHREN, unawares brought in, who came Privily to spy out his Liberty, which he had in Christ Jesus, that they might bring him into Bondage. To whom he gave place by Subjection, no not for an Hour, that the Truth of the Gospel might continue with the Church. Doubtless this Brave, and Bold Resolution did the Apostle take by the peculiar Command, and Inspiration of the Holy Ghost; and yet if Our Dissenters had Liv'd in those Times, they would have Branded him as an Intemperate, Hot, Furious Zealot, that wanted to be Sweeten'd, by the Gentle Spirit of Charity, and Moderation, forsooth! Schism, and Faction, are Things of Impudent, and Incredulous Natures; they Thrive upon Concessions, take Permission for Power, and Advance a Toleration immediately into an Establishment; And are therefore to be treated like Growing Mischiefs, or Infectious Plagues, kept at a Distance, lest their Deadly Contagion spread. Let Us therefore have no Fellowship with these Works of Darkness, but rather Reprove them. Let Our Superior Pastors do their Duty in Thundring out their Ecclesiastical Anathema's, and let any Power on Earth Dare Reverse a Sentence Pass'd in Heaven. Let Them Discountenance all these Seditious, Lukewarm, Almost-Christians, and Promote Men of Probity, Conscience, and Courage. I say Conscience, and Courage, for the
One

One without the Other, islike *Faith without Works*,
Dead, and *Insignificant*. A *Christian*, and a *Coward*,
 are such *Contradictions*, as were never found in the
Church Militant; Men of *Timorous*, and *Wastardly*
Spirits, who are *Asham'd to Own*, or *Afraid to De-*
fend their *Principles*, lest they should *Lose*, or
Suffer by it, will prove very *Poor Disciples* of the
Cross! Such Men (as an *Ingenious Prelate* Wittily
 expressees it) are only *Honest by Chance*. Let
 Us *Despise* the *Sneaking*, *Shuffling Compliances*
 of such as *Consult* their *Safety*, and not their *Inno-*
cence, and *Dare to be True* in the *Worst of Times*,
 with this *All-sustaining Cordial Comfort*, that what-
 ever *Enemies* We *gain*, or *Friends* We *Lose*, We
 carry One *within Us*, that can *Confront*, *Vanquish*,
 and *Counter-balance All*. *Woe unto them that have a*
Fearful Heart, and to the *Faint Hands*, and to the
Sinner that goeth two manner of ways! says the *Wise*
Man. And agreeable to Him the *Apostle*, in very
Sarcastic Expressions, *Woe unto them that have gone*
in the Way of Cain, and *ran greedily after the Error*
of Balaam for Reward, and *Perish'd in the Gain-saying*
of Corah! *These are Spots in your Feasts of Charity*,
Clouds without Water carry'd about of *Winds*, *Trees*
whose Fruits wither'd, without Fruit, *Twice Deed*, pluckt
up by the Roots, *Raging Waves of the Sea*, foaming
out their Own Shame; *Wundring Stars*, to whom is
Reserv'd the Blackness of Darkness for ever. Let Us
 therefore, being well *assur'd* how much Our *Cause*
Deserves, and how much at present it *Requires Our*
bravest

Ecclus. 2.
12.

Jude 11,
12, 13.

bravest Resolutions, hold fast our Integrity, and Religion, without Wavering, and earnestly Contend for the Faith, which was once Deliver'd unto the Saints.

My Brethren be strong in the Lord, and in the Power of his Might. Put on the whole Armour of God, that

Eph. 6.
10, &c.

Ye may be able to stand against the Wiles of the Devil. For we Wrestle not only against Flesh and Blood, but against Principalities, against Powers, against the Rulers of the Darkness of this World, against Spiritual Wickednesses in High-Places. Wherefore take unto You the whole Armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the Evil Day, and having done All to Stand. Not Doubting, but that if We shew the same Courage, and Indefatigable Zeal, and Labour, to Defend, as Our Adversaries to Reproach, Divide, and Ruine our Church, neither their United Malice, nor Power, nor all the Plots, and Machinations of Rome, nor the very Gates of Hell it self shall ever be able to Prevail against Her.

And let us Trust in that Gracious Providence, which so Miraculously Deliver'd Her on this Day, that

Lam. 2.
2. 4.
Zech.
13. 6.

tho' she lies Bleeding of the Wounds she has receiv'd in the House of Her Friends, tho' the ways of Zion may Mourn for a time, and Her Gates be Desolate, her Priests Sigh, and she in Bitterness, because Her Adversaries are Chief, and Her Enemies at present Prosper; tho' among all her Lovers she has few to Comfort Her, and many of Her Friends have dealt Treacherously with Her, and are become Her Enemies; tho' there are few to Guide Her among all the Sons whom

Isa. 51. 18.

she

she has brought forth, neither are there many that take Her by the Hand, of all the Sons that she hath brought up, tho' her Enemies cry Down with Her, Down with Her, even to the Ground, yet there is a God that can, and will Raise Her up, if We Forsake Her not. Let us not therefore ungratefully contribute to

1 Cor. 15. 58. *Her Destruction, but let us continue Stedfast, Im-*
movable, always abounding in the Work of the Lord,
forasmuch as We know that our Labour will not be in
vain in the Lord. Now, the God of all Grace, who

1 Pet. 5. 10, 11. *bath called Us into his Eternal Glory by Christ Jesus,*
after that ye have suffer'd a while make you Per-
fect, Stablish, Strengthen, Settle You. To Him be
Glory, and Dominion, for ever, and ever. Amen.

Let Us conclude all in that Excellent Collect
 of Our Church,

O Lord, We beseech thee, let thy continual Pity
 Cleanse, and Defend thy Church; and be-
 cause it cannot continue in Safety without thy Suc-
 cour, Preserve it evermore by thy Help, and Good-
 ness, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.



F I N I S.

